

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Inventor** David DIDUCH et al. **Examiner:** Glenn K. DAWSON

**Serial No.:** 10/084,283 **Confirmation No.** 7097

**Filed:** February 26, 2002 **Group Art Unit:** 3731

**Title:** SUPERELASTIC SUTURE PASSING DEVICES AND METHODS

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

2202

2201

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-referenced application, please amend the claims as follows:

Please add new claims 49-51 as follows.

**REMARKS**

By this amendment, claims 49-51 are newly added and read on the elected species IV, as presented in the Restriction Requirement dated 11/3/04 and elected in the simultaneously filed Response to Restriction Requirement. Support for the new claims may be found in the specification and drawings as originally filed. Currently, claims 24-51 are pending in this application.


If any fees are associated with the entering and consideration of this preliminary amendment, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account 50-2882.

Applicant respectfully requests issuance of a Notice of Allowance. If the undersigned attorney can assist in any matters regarding examination of this application, Examiner is encouraged to call at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

David DIDUCH et al.

Date: 22 November 2004

  
Fariborz Moazzam  
Reg. No. 53,339

Moazzam & Latimer LLP  
1474 North Point Village Center #320  
Reston, Virginia 20194-1190  
(703) 542-7813